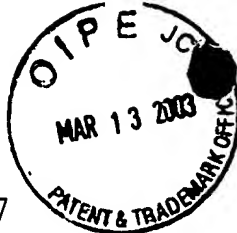


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*9/8
J. Douglas
3/18/03
(H.F.)*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : T. TAKAHASHI

Group Art Unit: 2613

Appl. No. : 09/467,152

Examiner: Behrooz M. SENFI

Filed : December 20, 1999

For : ELECTRONIC ENDOSCOPE

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Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Final Official Action of December 13, 2002, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on March 13, 2003, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the herein-contained amendments and remarks.

03/14/2003 MNHAMM1 00000013 09467152

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02 FC:1201

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